

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
GROUP ART UNIT 1732**

SERIAL NUMBER OF DOCUMENT
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1732, 703-472-1732, addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date: January 2, 2003

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**PATENT
36856.927**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Takahiro YAMAMOTO et al.

Serial No.: 09/539,691

Art Unit: 1732

Filed: March 31, 2000

Examiner: S. Stalcovici

Title: METHOD FOR MACHINING CERAMIC
GREEN SHEETS

AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 2, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

OFFICIAL

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-4 and 15-18 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

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Please replace claims 8-10 with the following claims:

8. A method for machining a ceramic green sheet according to Claim 5, wherein the diffraction grating is made of a material which is substantially transparent to the laser beam.

9. A method for machining a ceramic green sheet according to Claim 5, wherein the laser source is a CO₂ laser.

10. A method for machining a ceramic green sheet according to Claim 5, wherein the ceramic green sheet is provided with a carrier film for supporting one face of the ceramic green sheet.

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Please replace claims 8-10 with the following claims:

C 1 *Amend* 8. A method for machining a ceramic green sheet according to Claim 5, wherein the diffraction grating is made of a material which is substantially transparent to the laser beam.

C 2 9. A method for machining a ceramic green sheet according to Claim 5, wherein the laser source is a CO₂ laser.

C 3 10. A method for machining a ceramic green sheet according to Claim 5, wherein the ceramic green sheet is provided with a carrier film for supporting one face of the ceramic green sheet.